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EXAMINER	
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/895,402	NISHIYAMA, JUNICHI	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	James A. Thompson	2625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *16 January 2009 and 12 January 2009*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-25* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-25* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 16 January 2009 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments filed 16 January 2009 and 12 January 2009 have been fully considered but they ar not persuasive. Examiner agrees with Applicant in Applicant's arguments of 16 January 2009 that the amendments filed therein overcome the previously cited combination of references. However, Examiner has discovered additional prior art which, when combined with the previously cited Dellert reference (US-6,154,755), renders the presently recited claims obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention. Accordingly, new grounds of rejection are set forth below.

Applicant's arguments of 12 January 2009 also state that the amendments given therein overcome the previously cited prior art references. However, since Applicant's amendments of 16 January 2009 replace the claims as amended on 12 January 2009, Applicant's arguments of 12 January 2009 are rendered moot.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-2, 8, 10, 12, 17 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dellert (US-6,154,755) in view of Watanabe (US-2005/0220366 A1).

Regarding claims 1, 12 and 17: Dellert discloses an image processing device (figure 1 of Dellert) comprising:

- an image reader (figure 1(10) of Dellert) for reading developed photographic film data (column 2, lines 30-33 of Dellert) and generating an image data thereof (column 2, lines 47-51 of Dellert), wherein a file of the image data is given a file name and is registered with a location (array location for each image, which also corresponds to storage location of floppy disc) in a recording media (column 2, lines 38-47 and lines 54-58 of Dellert), said recording media including a plurality of memory locations (column 2, lines 36-42 of Dellert – *each memory location for thumbnail images is of size for 100x100 pixels*).
- a detector (figure 1(14(portion)) of Dellert) for detecting a reading condition when reading the developed photographic film image (column 3, lines 12-22 and column 4, lines 25-34 of Dellert), wherein the reading condition includes a location data identifying the location of the file in the recording media (column 3, lines 12-22 of Dellert), and the location data includes data indicating which memory location of the plurality of memory locations in which the file is stored (column 3, lines 12-28 of Dellert). The list of file names of the collection of scanned images is detected (column 4, lines 25-27 of Dellert), the file names given and stored based on the image array order (column 3, lines 12-22 of Dellert). The file name also indicates which memory location in which

the file is stored since the files are stored sequentially in the order of the numerical portion of the file name, even if mutliple floppy disks are required (column 3, lines 12-28 of Dellert). Further, a list of the scanned images that have been rotated, along with the corresponding rotation values, are detected in the file "ROTATION.DAT" if said file is detected (column 4, lines 27-34 of Dellert).

- an extractor (figure 1(14(portion)) of Dellert) for extracting a specific image data from the image data (column 4, lines 46-50 of Dellert). In order to perform operations, such as the rotation of one or more images, said images have to be selected from out of the set of images (column 4, lines 46-50 of Dellert). Said selected image(s) are therefore extracted from said set of images in order for the rotation and other processing to occur.
- a generator (figure 1(14(portion)) of Dellert) for generating an index data including the specific image data (column 5, lines 8-13 of Dellert) and a reading condition data (column 5, lines 23-37; and column 6, lines 30-37 of Dellert), wherein the reading condition data includes the location data (column 5, lines 31-37 of Dellert). The reading condition data generated by the apparatus of Dellert are the image objects listed in the image object list (column 5, lines 28-32 of Dellert), location data (such as the file names, which are used in saving the thumbnail and high resolution images in the \THUMB and \IMAGES directories, respectfully) (column 5, lines 31-37 of Dellert), the image titles (column 6, line 32 of Dellert), and the image timestamp (column 6, lines 32-33 of Dellert).

→ A computer (figure 1(14) of Dellert) performs the overall image processing after the image data has been scanned in (column 2, lines 36-42 of Dellert). The detector, extractor, and generator correspond to the elements of the computer, along with the corresponding embodied software, that perform the operations of said detector, said extractor, and said generator.

- a printer (figure 1(16) and column 2, lines 41-44 of Dellert) that prints an image in accordance with the index data (figure 2; and column 6, lines 22-24 and lines 30-33 of Dellert).

Dellert does not disclose expressly that said image reader reads in a *document* image; that said memory locations include locations having a heirarchical structure; and that the index data includes the location data.

Watanabe dislcoses an image reader that reads in a document image (figure 12A and para. 49 of Watanabe – *album and image information read in as structured document pages*); memory locations that include locations having a heirarchical structure (figure 1(22-1) and para. 30 of Watanabe – *memory locations structured according to albums and individual pictures within the albums*); and index data that includes the location data (figure 11; figure 12A(56); and para. 49, lines 3-18 of Watanabe – *picture number, which is used in the printing layout, is indexed and used to determine both physical location on the page and memory location in the computer memory*).

Dellert and Watanabe are combinable because they are from the same field of endeavor, namely the arrangement, storage, indexing and structuring of picture data for printing and other forms of output. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to use the more advanced memory and indexing system taught by Watanabe in the system of Dellert. The suggestion for doing so would have been that the memory and indexing scheme taught by Watanabe is more advanced and better organized that the scheme shown in Dellert. Thus, it would be advantageous to combine the two references such that the better organizational scheme is implemented. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Watanabe with Dellert to obtain the invention as specified in claims 1, 12 and 17.

Further regarding claims 12 and 17: The apparatus of claim 1 performs the steps of the program of claim 12 and the method of claim 17.

Regarding claim 2: Dellert discloses that said specific image data is image data of a specified page of the document (column 4, lines 46-50 of Dellert). The image or images selected are part of a set of images that are scanned in (column 2, lines 36-39 of Dellert), and thus one or more from the plurality of pages of the document taught by Wang (column 3, lines 60-65 of Wang).

Regarding claim 8: Dellert discloses an image handling system (figure 1 of Dellert) comprising an image input device (figure 1(10,14) of Dellert) and a printing device (figure 1(16) and column 2, lines 41-44 of Dellert). Since the computer (figure 1(14) of Dellert) and scanner (figure 1(10) of Dellert) are electrically connected, as can clearly be seen in figure 1 of Dellert, and said computer performs the overall image processing operations (column 2, lines 36-42 of Dellert), said scanner and said computer can be considered a single device.

Said image input device comprises:

- an image reader (figure 1(10) of Dellert) for reading developed photographic film data (column 2, lines 30-33 of Dellert) and generating an image data thereof (column 2, lines 47-51 of Dellert), wherein a file of the image data is given a file name and is registered with a location (array location for each image, which also corresponds to storage location of floppy disc) in a recording media (column 2, lines 38-47 and lines 54-58 of Dellert), said recording media including a plurality of memory locations (column 2, lines 36-42 of Dellert – *each memory location for thumbnail images is of size for 100x100 pixels*).
- a detector (figure 1(14(portion)) of Dellert) for detecting a reading condition when reading the developed photographic film image (column 3, lines 12-22 and column 4, lines 25-34 of Dellert), wherein the reading condition includes location data identifying the location of the file in the recording media (column 3, lines 12-22 of Dellert), and the location data includes data indicating which memory location of the plurality of memory locations in which the file is stored (column 3, lines 12-28 of Dellert). The list of file names of the collection of scanned images is detected

(column 4, lines 25-27 of Dellert), the file names given and stored based on the image array order (column 3, lines 12-22 of Dellert). The file name also indicates which memory location in which the file is stored since the files are stored sequentially in the order of the numerical portion of the file name, even if mutliple floppy disks are required (column 3, lines 12-28 of Dellert). Further, a list of the scanned images that have been rotated, along with the corresponding rotation values, are detected in the file "ROTATION.DAT" if said file is detected (column 4, lines 27-34 of Dellert).

- an extractor (figure 1(14(portion)) of Dellert) for extracting a specific image data from the image data (column 4, lines 46-50 of Dellert). In order to perform operations, such as the rotation of one or more images, said images have to be selected from out of the set of images (column 4, lines 46-50 of Dellert). Said selected image(s) are therefore extracted from said set of images in order for the rotation and other processing to occur.
- a generator (figure 1(14(portion)) of Dellert) for generating an index data including the specific image data (column 5, lines 8-13 of Dellert) and a reading condition data (column 5, lines 23-25 and lines 28-32; and column 6, lines 30-33 of Dellert), wherein the reading condition data includes the location data (column 5, lines 31-37 of Dellert). The reading condition data generated by the apparatus of Dellert are the image objects listed in the image object list (column 5, lines 28-32 of Dellert), data related to the destination (such as the file names, which are used in saving the thumbnail and high resolution images in the \THUMB and \IMAGES directories, respectfully) (column 5, lines 31-37 of Dellert), the image titles (column 6, line 32 of Dellert), and the image timestamp (column 6, lines 32-33 of Dellert).
- a transmitting device (figure 1(14(portion)) of Dellert) for transmitting the index data to said printing device (column 6, lines 26-36 of Dellert).

→ A computer (figure 1(14) of Dellert) performs the overall image processing after the image data has been scanned in (column 2, lines 36-42 of Dellert). The detector, extract-or, generator and transmitting device correspond to the elements of the computer, along with the corresponding embodied software, that perform the operations of said detector, said extractor, said generator, and said transmitting device.

Said printing device comprises:

- a printer (figure 1(16) of Dellert) that prints an image in accordance with the received index data (figure 2 and column 6, lines 22-24 and lines 30-33 of Dellert).
- a receiving device for receiving the index data is inherent in said printing device since, if said index data is not received, it is not possible for said printing device to print said index data.

Dellert does not disclose expressly that said image reader reads in a *document* image; that said memory locations include locations having a heirarchical structure; and that the index data includes the location data.

Watanabe dislcoses an image reader that reads in a document image (figure 12A and para. 49 of Watanabe – *album and image information read in as structured document pages*); memory locations that include locations having a heirarchical structure (figure 1(22-1) and para. 30 of Watanabe – *memory locations structured according to albums and individual pictures within the albums*); and index data that includes the location data (figure 11; figure 12A(56); and para. 49, lines 3-18 of Watanabe – *picture number, which is used in the printing layout, is indexed and used to determine both physical location on the page and memory location in the computer memory*).

Dellert and Watanabe are combinable because they are from the same field of endeavor, namely the arrangement, storage, indexing and structuring of picture data for printing and other forms of output. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to use the more advanced memory and indexing system taught by Watanabe in the system of Dellert. The

suggestion for doing so would have been that the memory and indexing scheme taught by Watanabe is more advanced and better organized that the scheme shown in Dellert. Thus, it would be advantageous to combine the two references such that the better organizational scheme is implemented. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Watanabe with Dellert to obtain the invention as specified in claim 8.

Regarding claim 10: Dellert discloses an image data handling system (figure 1 of Dellert) comprising an image input device (figure 1(10,14(portions),16) of Dellert) and a data processing device (figure 1(14(portions)) of Dellert). The computer (figure 1(14) of Dellert), scanner (figure 1(10) of Dellert), and printer (figure 1(16) and column 2, lines 41-44 of Dellert) are electrically connected, as can clearly be seen in figure 1 of Dellert, and interact with one another as a single overall system, as clearly demonstrated by the interconnected functions described in column 2, lines 30-43 of Dellert. Said computer performs the overall image processing operations (column 2, lines 36-42 of Dellert). The image input device can therefore be considered as said scanner, said printer, and the portions of said computer, along with the corresponding embodied software, that receive, detect, and transmit the image data. The data processing device can be considered as the portions of said computer, along with the corresponding embodied software, that perform the various data processing operations.

Said image input device comprises:

- an image reader (figure 1(10) of Dellert) for reading developed photographic film data (column 2, lines 30-33 of Dellert) and generating an image data thereof (column 2, lines 47-51 of Dellert), wherein a file of the image data is given a file name and is registered with a location (array location for each image, which also corresponds to storage location of floppy disc) in a recording media (column 2, lines 38-47 and lines 54-58 of Dellert), said recording media including a plurality of memory locations (column 2, lines 36-42 of Dellert – *each memory location for thumbnail images is of size for 100x100 pixels*).

- a detector (figure 1(14(portion)) of Dellert) for detecting a reading condition when reading the developed photographic film image (column 3, lines 12-22 and column 4, lines 25-34 of Dellert), wherein the reading condition includes a location data identifying the location of the file in the recording media (column 3, lines 12-22 of Dellert), and the location data includes data indicating which memory location of the plurality of memory locations in which the file is stored (column 3, lines 12-28 of Dellert). The list of file names of the collection of scanned images is detected (column 4, lines 25-27 of Dellert), the file names given and stored based on the image array order (column 3, lines 12-22 of Dellert). The file name also indicates which memory location in which the file is stored since the files are stored sequentially in the order of the numerical portion of the file name, even if mutliple floppy disks are required (column 3, lines 12-28 of Dellert). Further, a list of the scanned images that have been rotated, along with the corresponding rotation values, are detected in the file "ROTATION.DAT" if said file is detected (column 4, lines 27-34 of Dellert).
- a transmitting device (figure 1(14(portion)) of Dellert) for transmitting the read image data and a reading condition to said printing device (column 6, lines 26-36 of Dellert), wherein the reading condition data includes the data related to the location (column 5, lines 31-37 of Dellert). The reading condition data generated by the apparatus of Dellert are the image objects listed in the image object list (column 5, lines 28-32 of Dellert), data related to the location (such as the file names, which are used in saving the thumbnail and high resolution images in the \THUMB and \IMAGES directories, respectfully) (column 5, lines 31-37 of Dellert), the image titles (column 6, line 32 of Dellert), and the image timestamp (column 6, lines 32-33 of Dellert).

→ A computer (figure 1(14) of Dellert) performs the overall image processing operations (column 2, lines 36-42 of Dellert). The detector and transmitting device correspond to the elements of the

computer, along with the corresponding embodied software, that perform the operations of said detector and said transmitting device.

- a printer (figure 1(16) of Dellert) that prints an image in accordance with the read image data and the reading condition data (figure 2 and column 6, lines 22-37 of Dellert).

Said data processing device comprises:

- a receiving device (figure 1(14(portion)) of Dellert) for receiving the image data and the reading condition data (column 2, lines 36-44 and lines 53-58 of Dellert).
- an extractor (figure 1(14(portion)) of Dellert) for extracting a specific image data from the image data (column 4, lines 46-50 of Dellert). In order to perform operations, such as the rotation of one or more images, said images have to be selected from out of the set of images (column 4, lines 46-50 of Dellert). Said selected image(s) are therefore extracted from said set of images in order for the rotation and other processing to occur.
- a generator (figure 1(14(portion)) of Dellert) for generating an index data including the specific image data (column 5, lines 8-13 of Dellert) and the reading condition data (column 5, lines 23-25 and lines 28-32; and column 6, lines 30-33 of Dellert).
- a transmitting device (figure 1(14(portion)) of Dellert) for transmitting the index data to said printing device (column 6, lines 26-36 of Dellert).

Dellert does not disclose expressly that said image reader reads in a *document* image; that said memory locations include locations having a heirarchical structure; and that the index data includes the location data.

Watanabe dislcoses an image reader that reads in a document image (figure 12A and para. 49 of Watanabe – *album and image information read in as structured document pages*); memory locations that include locations having a heirarchical structure (figure 1(22-1) and para. 30 of Watanabe – *memory locations structured according to albums and individual pictures within the albums*); and index data that

includes the location data (figure 11; figure 12A(56); and para. 49, lines 3-18 of Watanabe – *picture number, which is used in the printing layout, is indexed and used to determine both physical location on the page and memory location in the computer memory*).

Dellert and Watanabe are combinable because they are from the same field of endeavor, namely the arrangement, storage, indexing and structuring of picture data for printing and other forms of output. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to use the more advanced memory and indexing system taught by Watanabe in the system of Dellert. The suggestion for doing so would have been that the memory and indexing scheme taught by Watanabe is more advanced and better organized that the scheme shown in Dellert. Thus, it would be advantageous to combine the two references such that the better organizational scheme is implemented. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Watanabe with Dellert to obtain the invention as specified in claim 10.

Regarding claim 18: Dellert discloses an image data handling device (figure 1 of Dellert) comprising:

- an input device (figure 1(10) of Dellert) for inputting an image data (column 2, lines 30-33 of Dellert), wherein a file of the image data is given a file name and is registered with a location (array location for each image, which also corresponds to storage location of floppy disc) in a recording media (column 2, lines 38-47 and lines 54-58 of Dellert), said recording media including a plurality of memory locations (column 2, lines 36-42 of Dellert – *each memory location for thumbnail images is of size for 100x100 pixels*).
- a generating device (figure 1(14) of Dellert) for generating an index data (column 5, lines 8-13 of Dellert) by acquiring a generating condition (column 3, lines 12-22 and column 4, lines 25-34 of Dellert) when the image data is generated (column 5, lines 23-25 and lines 28-32; and column 6, lines 30-33 of Dellert), wherein the generating condition includes data related to the location

(column 3, lines 12-22 of Dellert), and the location data includes data indicating which memory location of the plurality of memory locations in which the file is stored (column 3, lines 12-28 of Dellert), generating reduced image data of the image data (column 2, lines 38-42 of Dellert), and combining the generating condition and the reduced image data (column 5, lines 23-25 and lines 28-32; and column 6, lines 30-33 of Dellert). The generating condition data generated by the apparatus of Dellert are the file names given and stored based on the image array order (column 3, lines 12-22 of Dellert), the list of the scanned images that have been rotated, along with the corresponding rotation values, which are detected in the file "ROTATION.DAT" if said file is detected (column 4, lines 27-34 of Dellert), the image objects listed in the image object list (column 5, lines 28-32 of Dellert), the image titles (column 6, line 32 of Dellert), and the image timestamp (column 6, lines 32-33 of Dellert). The file name also indicates which memory location in which the file is stored since the files are stored sequentially in the order of the numerical portion of the file name, even if mutliple floppy disks are required (column 3, lines 12-28 of Dellert).

- an output device (figure 1(16) of Dellert) for outputting the generated index data (figure 2; and column 6, lines 22-24 and lines 30-33 of Dellert).

Dellert does not disclose expressly that said memory locations include locations having a heirarchical structure; that the index data includes the data related to the location; and a storage device for storing the inputted image data.

Watanabe dislcoses memory locations that include locations having a heirarchical structure (figure 1(22-1) and para. 30 of Watanabe – *memory locations structured according to albums and individual pictures within the albums*); index data that includes the data related to the location (figure 11; figure 12A(56); and para. 49, lines 3-18 of Watanabe – *picture number, which is used in the printing layout, is indexed and used to determine both physical location on the page and memory location in the*

computer memory); and a storage device for storing the inputted image data (figure 1(22) and para. 29, line 7 to para. 30, line 3 of Watanabe).

Dellert and Watanabe are combinable because they are from the same field of endeavor, namely the arrangement, storage, indexing and structuring of picture data for printing and other forms of output. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to use the more advanced memory and indexing system taught by Watanabe in the system of Dellert. The suggestion for doing so would have been that the memory and indexing scheme taught by Watanabe is more advanced and better organized that the scheme shown in Dellert. Thus, it would be advantageous to combine the two references such that the better organizational scheme is implemented. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Watanabe with Dellert to obtain the invention as specified in claim 18.

5. Claims 3, 6, 9, 11, 13 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dellert (US-6,154,755) in view of Watanabe (US-2005/0220366 A1) and Takayanagi (US-5,680,226).

Regarding claims 3 and 13: Dellert in view of Watanabe does not disclose expressly that said reading condition data includes at least one of the items of document size, number of pages, reading mode, resolution, and image quality data.

Takayanagi discloses that said reading condition data (column 6, lines 21-22 of Takayanagi) includes at least one of the items of document size (column 6, lines 26-30 of Takayanagi), number of pages (column 6, lines 30-31 of Takayanagi), reading mode (column 6, lines 24-25 of Takayanagi), resolution (column 6, lines 22-23 of Takayanagi), and image quality data (column 6, lines 23-24 and line 31 of Takayanagi).

Dellert in view of Watanabe is combinable with Takayanagi because they are from the same field of endeavor, namely digital image data scanning and processing. At the time of the invention, it would

have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to include the items of reading condition data taught by Takayanagi. The motivation for doing so would have been so that the document data can be properly printed using said reading condition data (column 6, lines 32-34 of Takayanagi). Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Takayanagi with Dellert in view of Watanabe to obtain the invention as specified in claims 3 and 13.

Regarding claims 6, 9, 11 and 15: Dellert in view of Watanabe does not disclose expressly a storage device for storing the read image data.

Takayanagi discloses a storage device (figure 2(80) of Takayanagi) for storing the read image data (column 4, lines 29-32 of Takayanagi).

Dellert in view of Watanabe is combinable with Takayanagi because they are from the same field of endeavor, namely digital image data scanning and processing. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to store the image data that has been scanned in on a storage medium, as taught by Takayanagi. The motivation for doing so would have been to be able to print multiple copies of a document from a single scanning (column 4, lines 30-32 of Takayanagi). Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Takayanagi with Dellert in view of Watanabe to obtain the invention as specified in claims 6, 9, 11 and 15.

6. Claims 4 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dellert (US-6,154,755) in view of Watanabe (US-2005/0220366 A1), Takayanagi (US-5,680,226), and Johnson (US-6,351,547 B1).

Regarding claims 4 and 14: Dellert in view of Watanabe and Takayanagi does not disclose expressly that the location data is defined by a name of an apparatus containing the recording media where the image data is registered.

Johnson discloses a database for image processing and printing that includes location data defined by a name of an apparatus containing the recording media where the image data is registered (column 13, lines 45-58 of Johnson – *ID to destination remote device, which includes storage devices storing the image data*).

Dellert in view of Watanabe and Takayanagi is combinable with Johnson because they are from the same field of endeavor, namely digital image data scanning and processing. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to use an ID that names the apparatus (storage device) containing the recording media (disk drive) where the image is registered, as taught by Johnson. The motivation for doing so would have been to efficiently allocate memory and process the image data. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Johnson with Dellert in view of Watanabe and Takayanagi to obtain the invention as specified in claims 4 and 14.

7. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dellert (US-6,154,755) in view of Watanabe (US-2005/0220366 A1) and Parry (US-6,148,331).

Regarding claim 5: Dellert in view of Watanabe does not disclose expressly that said location data is defined by URL.

Parry discloses location data that is defined by URL (column 6, lines 45-49 of Parry).

Dellert in view of Watanabe is combinable with Parry because they are from the same field of endeavor, namely digital image data scanning and processing. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to use a URL as the location data, as taught by Parry. The motivation for doing so would have been to provide rapid access to a website containing the image information (column 3, lines 45-50 of Parry). Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Parry with Dellert in view of Watanabe to obtain the invention as specified in claim 5.

8. Claims 7 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dellert (US-6,154,755) in view of Watanabe (US-2005/0220366 A1) and Saukkonen (US-6,011,590).

Regarding claims 7 and 16: Dellert discloses that the computer (figure 1(14) of Dellert) receives the read image data (column 2, lines 36-39 of Dellert). Therefore, it is inherent that some form of transmitting device is included as part of the image processing device (figure 1 of Dellert) since, without some form of transmitting device, it is impossible for said computer to receive the read image data that is to be processed.

Dellert in view of Watanabe does not disclose expressly that said computer includes the recording media (storage device) connected thereto via a network.

Saukkonen discloses a recording media (storage device) (figure 1(20) of Saukkonen) connected thereto via a network (column 4, lines 2-6 of Saukkonen).

Dellert in view of Watanabe is combinable with Saukkonen because they are from the same field of endeavor, namely digital image data scanning and processing. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to transmit the read image data to said computer, as taught by Dellert, said computer containing the storage device connected thereto via a network, as taught by Saukkonen. The motivation for doing so would have been that a plurality of receivers can access the data (column 4, lines 2-4 of Saukkonen). Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Saukkonen with Dellert in view of Watanabe to obtain the invention as specified in claims 7 and 16.

9. Claims 19-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dellert (US-6,154,755) in view of Watanabe (US-2005/0220366 A1) and Takayanagi (US-5,680,226).

Regarding claim 19: Dellert in view of Watanabe does not disclose expressly that said reading condition data includes at least one of the items of document size, number of pages, reading mode, resolution, and image quality data.

Takayanagi discloses that said reading condition data (column 6, lines 21-22 of Takayanagi) includes at least one of the items of document size (column 6, lines 26-30 of Takayanagi), number of pages (column 6, lines 30-31 of Takayanagi), reading mode (column 6, lines 24-25 of Takayanagi), resolution (column 6, lines 22-23 of Takayanagi), and image quality data (column 6, lines 23-24 and line 31 of Takayanagi).

Dellert in view of Watanabe is combinable with Takayanagi because they are from the same field of endeavor, namely digital image data scanning and processing. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to include the items of reading condition data taught by Takayanagi. The motivation for doing so would have been so that the document data can be properly printed using said reading condition data (column 6, lines 32-34 of Takayanagi). Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Takayanagi with Dellert in view of Watanabe to obtain the invention as specified in claim 19.

Regarding claim 20: Dellert discloses that said input device is a scanner (column 2, lines 30-33 of Dellert).

Regarding claim 21: Dellert discloses that said output device is a printer (column 2, lines 41-44 of Dellert).

10. Claims 22-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dellert (US-6,154,755) in view of Watanabe (US-2005/0220366 A1) and Johnson (US-6,351,547 B1).

Regarding claims 22-24: Dellert in view of Watanabe does not disclose expressly that the location data is defined by a name of an apparatus containing the recording media where the image data is registered.

Johnson discloses a database for image processing and printing that includes location data defined by a name of an apparatus containing the recording media where the image data is registered (column 13,

lines 45-58 of Johnson – *ID to destination remote device, which includes storage devices storing the image data*).

Dellert in view of Watanabe is combinable with Johnson because they are from the same field of endeavor, namely digital image data scanning and processing. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to use an ID that names the apparatus (storage device) containing the recording media (disk drive) where the image is registered, as taught by Johnson. The motivation for doing so would have been to efficiently allocate memory and process the image data. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Johnson with Dellert in view of Watanabe to obtain the invention as specified in claims 22-24.

Regarding claim 25: Dellert in view of Watanabe does not disclose expressly that the location data is defined by a name of an apparatus containing the recording media where the image data is registered.

Johnson discloses a database for image processing and printing that includes location data defined by a name of an apparatus containing the recording media where the image data is registered (column 13, lines 45-58 of Johnson – *ID to destination remote device, which includes storage devices storing the image data*).

Dellert in view of Watanabe is combinable with Johnson because they are from the same field of endeavor, namely digital image data scanning and processing. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to use an ID that names the apparatus (storage device) containing the recording media (disk drive) where the image is registered, as taught by Johnson. The motivation for doing so would have been to efficiently allocate memory and process the image data. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Johnson with Dellert in view of Watanabe to obtain the invention as specified in claim 25.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James A. Thompson whose telephone number is (571)272-7441. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM-5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward L. Coles can be reached on 571-272-7402. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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/James A Thompson/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2625

16 February 2009